

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 SAI-01 /087 W

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R 011716Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9172

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 842

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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E.O. 11652: NAT

TAGS: EEC, GR, TU

SUBJECT: GREEK APPLICATION TO EC, TURKISH REACTION AND TIMETABLE

REFS: A) ATHENS 4782

B) EC BRUSSELS 5583

C) EC BRUSSELS 5744

1. SUMMARY: THE TURKS MADE A LOW KEY APPROACH TO EC COMPLAINING THAT GREEK MEMBERSHIP WOULD UPSET THE EC'S BALANCE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY AND PUSH THE EC TO THE GREEK SIDE IN THE CYPRUS DISPUTE. AN EC COMMISSION SOURCE BELIEVES THAT THE PURELY TECHNICAL WORK IN PREPARING FOR GREEK MEMBERSHIP WILL TAKE AT LEAST THREE YEARS TO COMPLETE.
END SUMMARY.

2. AN EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR RELATIONS WITH GREECE HAS CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS (REFTEL A) THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT MADE A FORMAL REPRESENTATION TO THE
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COMMUNITY ON THE GREEK APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (REFTELS

B AND C). IN A NOTE TO THE IRISH IN THEIR EC PRESIDENCY CAPACITY, THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT ARGUED THAT THE ASSOCIATION TREATIES WERE DESIGNED TO CREATE A BALANCE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY WHICH WOULD BE UPSET BY GREEK EC MEMBERSHIP. THE NOTE ARGUED THAT THE GREEKS ARE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED AND ARE EXPLOITING THEIR APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO LINE UP THE EC WITH GREECE IN THE CYPRUS DISPUTE. THE NOTE CONCLUDED, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, WITH A REQUEST THAT THE EC "MAINTAIN THE EXISTING IDENTITY OF INTEREST" BETWEEN THE EC AND TURKEY.

3. THE TONE AND CONTENT OF THE NOTE WERE REPORTED TO BE MODERATE, BUT OUR SOURCE SAYS TURKISH DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED TO THE EC HAVE TAKEN A HARDER LINE IN CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMISSION OFFICIALS EVEN THREATENING THAT TURKEY WOULD TERMINATE ITS ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT WITH THE EC, IF GREECE BECAME A MEMBER. OUR INFORMANT FEELS THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE TURKS WOULD CARRY OUT SUCH A THREAT.

4. TURNING TO A POSSIBLE TIMETABLE FOR GREEK MEMBERSHIP, OUR SOURCE BELIEVES THE EC COMMISSION'S OPINION, REQUESTED BY THE COUNCIL, WILL NOT BE COMPLETED BEFORE EARLY IN 1976. CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL AND THE MEMBER STATES, PLUS NEGOTIATIONS AND THE TECHNICAL PROCEDURES INVOLVED IN CONFIRMING COMMUNITY AND GREEK LEGISLATION, WOULD TAKE AT LEAST TWO AND ONE-HALF MORE YEARS. SO FROM A PURELY TECHNICAL VIEWPOINT, MEMBERSHIP IS AT LEAST THREE YEARS OFF. PRACTICALLY, OUR SOURCE CONSIDERS THE DELAY WILL EXCEED THAT BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL RESERVATIONS OF CERTAIN MEMBER STATES. HOWEVER, OUR SOURCE HAS NO DOUBT THAT THE GREEKS WILL ULTIMATELY BE ADMITTED.
GREENWALD

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